

THE MCGILL DAILY

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goin' through your garbage since 1911

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1994

Election profile

Who will unseat the incumbent on Nov. 6?

BY AUBREY COHEN

The Peter McGill district is in the heart of downtown Montréal. It includes both McGill and Concordia universities, but not the McGill Student Ghetto. The district has a variety of constituents, as it houses shops and office towers, old apartment buildings, condominiums and high rise luxury residences.

For twenty years now, Peter McGill has been represented by Nick Auf Der Maur, who is famous for spending more time in Grupy's Bar than in City Hall. In the coming week, the Daily will be profiling all of the candidates for City Council in the Peter McGill district.

Douglas Buckley-Couvrette (DC-EM)

Douglas Buckley-Couvrette is the candidate for the Democratic Coalition-Ecology Montréal in the Peter McGill riding. The administrator for Act-Up Montréal, a gay rights advocate group, he considers himself an activist. He explained his motivations for running for City Council, saying, "I think very seriously that somebody has got to do something about the condition the city of Montréal is in."

He said that he sees student participation in these elections as essential to his campaign, noting, "I'm convinced that if the students [in the Peter McGill district] voted for this party, we would unseat the incumbent and win this election."

He outlined the main problems which he saw with the city, and particularly his district, saying he was concerned about, "Economic depression resulting in poverty."

He also said that "the city is behind" in ecological and recycling issues. He highlighted the issue of environmentally sustainable development. Finally, he addressed the issue of social justice, noting, "Montréal is a huge, sprawling metropolis that has a great mix,... The city has to do much more to make its citizens feel welcome."

Buckley-Couvrette said that, if elected, his main priority would be economic issues. "We've got to revise the whole tax structure of Montréal... within the context of the provincial and federal authority." He said that Montréal has to diversify and called the surtax imposed by Doré's administration, "stupid".

"If this isn't done immediately, we're in for serious problems. The inner city of Montréal is just going to rot away," he added.

Another focus for Buckley-Couvrette is the promotion of "green industries".

"Montréal produces a lot of military hardware,... there's no reason in the world why these industries cannot be converted," he said.

The candidate referred to his party's platform when asked about recycling issues. Currently, the high-rise downtown apartment buildings are not serviced by recycling pickup. Commercial enterprises can arrange their own pickup, but are not required to do so. The DC-EM platform mandates that, by 1996, 80 per cent of all municipal solid waste be recycled.

"We've got a very solid ecological package," he commented.

Buckley-Couvrette wants to encourage the use of bicycles and reduce reliance on cars. He said that education was very important to exacerbate the "tension between bicyclists and motorists."

"This philosophy [that] 'the car owns the road' has got to go," he noted.

He responded enthusiastically to the need for a discount bus pass for university students. He said the issue is a matter of economic accessibility to education.

Buckley-Couvrette said he is against the process of condo conversion, a major threat to affordable rental housing, noting, "80 per cent of Montréalers rent their homes,... who is condo conversion really for?"

As for Nick Auf Der Maur, the independent incumbent, Buckley-Couvrette commented, "I think a city councillor should represent his district from City Hall, not from a bar stool... Besides that, he's supporting [Montréalers' Party] mayoral candidate] Jerome Choquette, and how far fascist can you get?"



QPIRG volunteers sort through piles of McGill trash at Friday's Campus Waste Audit. From 10h to 17h, students searched for evidence of McGill's poor recycling habits.

Hundreds protest Tel Aviv bombing

BY SONIA THEROUX

"Silence is a crime". These words, spoken at a memorial service last Thursday were meant to send a strong message to anyone listening. The service was held in response to Wednesday's terrorist attack which resulted in the deaths of 22 Israelis in the heart of Tel Aviv.

An estimated 400 people gathered outside the Shatner building to condemn the suicide bombing which left an additional 46 people injured.

The service lasted approximately forty minutes, as representatives from in and around the McGill community spoke out against terrorism, and prayed for an end to such violence.

Aviva Raz-Shecter, representing the Israeli government, was quick to direct any anger that may have been present at the gathering toward the organization which claimed responsibility for the attack.

"We have a war against the Hamas fundamentalist organization," said Raz-Shecter. "We call on [Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman] Yasser Arafat to curb these organizations in the territories under his control," she added.

In a statement released Wednesday, Arafat condemned the attack. "Pushing forward with the peace

process... is the only way to respond to the enemies of peace," it stated.

Raz-Shecter asserted that the peace process is not a threat to Israel, but that terrorist groups are. She encouraged the audience not to abandon the peace initiative and stressed the importance of continued negotiations with the PLO.

Hamas, an acronym for "Islamic Resistance Movement", claimed responsibility for the bombing and for two other violent incidents in the past two weeks.

Hamas rejects the peace accords which were signed by Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin, on September 13 of last year.

Rabbi David Merling, of the McGill Chaplaincy services declared, "actions such as these cannot stem from religious fervour but rather are crimes against humanity."

Signs at the gathering, such as one which read, "22 more innocent victims. When will it end?" illustrated the sense of frustration felt by many.

Perhaps the most moving of all speakers was Zvu Engel, vp external of Hillel at Marianopolis College.

"How much more can we take?" asked Engel, repeating the question asked by a witness of the bus bombing. He conceded to have no answer, but said, "in the interest of peace, we have to move on."

Engel called on McGill's Arab/Islamic community to publicly denounce Hamas's actions. He also encouraged everyone to protest against the violence, repeating, "Silence is a crime."

Engel later stated in a telephone interview that many Arab/Islamic organizations were invited to speak at the services. No such group was officially represented.

The Palestinian Solidarity Committee could not be reached for comment.

An official from the Egyptian consulate was rumoured to have been present. However, the Montreal Gazette later reported that Consul Hicham Marzouk could not confirm whether one actually attended.

Reverend David Galston, also from McGill Chaplaincy Services, offered condolences on behalf of the Christian community. He quoted a traditional Christian prayer.

"Lighten our darkness, o Lord, and let us persevere in this time of trial," he prayed.

Alys Yablon, a U1 McGill student, seemed particularly impressed with the reverend's contribution.

"It represented solidarity among the McGill community," said Yablon, "showing that [the bombing] was not just something that happened to the Jewish community, but to the human community as a whole."

WIN!

THE MCGILL DAILY

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The Reform Party: now in a city near you

The Reform Party has now established an office in Montréal, but who exactly are they?

BY CHRIS SCHANTZ

Reform Party. The name conjures up many different thoughts for different people. To some these thoughts are positive, dominated by ideas of economic efficiency and parliamentary reform. To others, however, they are very disturbing, largely due to the Reform's racist, sexist and homophobic connections.

The popularity of the Reform Party has risen tremendously from its humble beginnings as a party of 3,000 members in 1987, to a party with 52 members in the House of Commons, and 19 per cent of the popular vote in the 1993 federal election.

It is now a viable, popular and widespread federal party and whose existence can no longer be denied. But who exactly are they?

As a Calgarian, I am often asked about the Reform Party and its policies by Eastern Canadians. I have found that Eastern Canadians are often as misinformed about the Reform Party as Westerners are of the Parti Québécois.

To understand the Reform Party, one must first understand the conditions and climate which allowed the Reform Party to attain its present day strength.

Reform - a western party

The Reform Party began with its focus on regional issues. The party was, and remains, a regionally based party. Its national headquarters remain in Calgary, where the party began.

It is controlled by Western influences and its creation was a product of higher middle class business, which saw the party as a necessary creation to protect themselves during a period of economic turmoil and recession.

Westerners, especially those from Alberta and British Columbia, have always felt isolated from the rest of Canada. They also feel that they are left out of the decision making process, which they see as firmly planted in Ontario and Quebec.

Some Westerners are opposed to the fact that British Columbia and Alberta, the two largest contributors to the federal government transfer programs, receive the least money. Others feel that Quebec and Ontario control Canadian politics and inadequately represent the Western regions.

Under the leadership of Preston Manning, the party has developed a number of strategies aimed at strengthening the West's position in Canadian politics. These policies include positions on constitutional and political reform and new economic and fiscal priorities.

The classic example of Reform's pro-West position is the Triple-E Senate, a Senate with equal representation from each province, which would be "fully effective in

safeguarding regional interests" according to the party. Such a move would seriously limit Ontario and Quebec, provinces with the majority of Canada's population, to the same representation as every other province.

But if this helps us understand Reform Party regionalism, it in no way accounts for the party's racist, sexist and homophobic views and policies.

The Blue Sheet

The policies of the Reform Party, as outlined in the 'Blue Sheet', the party's manifesto, contain many contradictions and vague descriptions. One of the policies reads, "The Reform Party supports the preservation of the distinctive heritage and tradition of the RCMP by retaining the uniformity of the dress code. Changes should not be made for religious or ethnic reasons."

This policy restricts the RCMP to only those who are not required to wear visible articles as part of their religious or cultural belief. It proves to be inconsistent with Reform's policy which states that it "supports the principle that individuals or groups are free to preserve their cultural heritage."

A Reform government would be the end of multiculturalism and bilingualism. "The Reform Party... would end the funding of the multiculturalism program..." states the 'Blue Sheet'. On official languages, the Party opposes Canada's bilingualism "as unfair to the vast majority of unilingual Canadians."

The Reform Party affirms that it "would focus federal government activities on enhancing the citizenship of all Canadians regardless of race, language or culture." In other words, under a Reform government, a 'melting pot' formula, in which everyone becomes "Canadian", would be standard policy.

Reformists also believe in "the importance of strengthening and protecting the family unit as essential to the well being of individuals and society." Such a policy, combined with various speeches and documents of Reform Party MP's, has developed into the concept that same-sex couples and women with non-traditional roles seriously damage the moral integrity of the 'family unit'.

Lastly, the Reform Party has also been criticized for its immigration policy. The 'Blue Sheet' reads, "Immigrants should possess the human capital necessary to adjust quickly... to the needs of Canadian society and the job market." It doesn't take much to see how this policy could be used to arbitrarily exclude would-be immigrants who do not meet this criteria.

Reform hits Québec

The Reform Party opened its third regional office in July. The new office, located in Montreal, marks the beginning of the party's presence in Québec.

According to Line Maheux, Québec Regional Manager of the Reform Party and a former McGill student, the Reform Party's expansion was "responding to the Québec demand." Making reference to a questionnaire distributed among Reform members in February, Maheux stated that "out of fourteen items, Québec expansion was rated second."

In a speech at the 1994 National Reform Assembly on October 15, Preston Manning appealed to Québécois to embrace his party and their policies.

He asserted, "our national house is falling apart. The separatists say, 'Let's get out', the status quo federalists say, 'Don't worry, be happy'... but Reformers say, 'Let's overhaul the whole federal system from the bottom up'." It is this kind of populist jargon that has attracted such broad support for the party.

The Reform's concept of Canada, according to Manning, is the "option for Québécois who are presently being told that they only have two options - separation and the status quo."

Reform - coming soon to a university near you

Reform Party expansion will not be limited to the provincial level. A

"I personally wouldn't get involved with any group which is racist, sexist or homophobic." He said he believes that much of the Reform's negative reputation can be attributed both to misquotations of Reform Party members by the media and the possible vagueness of Reform's election platform.

Of this vagueness, White asserted, "it would be impossible to completely explain everything from start to finish." Maheux, regional manager of the Reform party in Québec, said commented that the addition of a Reform Party branch at McGill "is a good thing, and will fill a void at McGill politically."

Reform Revealed

The Campaign Against the Reform Party (CARP) demonstrated outside the National Reform Assembly meeting on October 15. According to Michelle Robidoux, one of CARP's Toronto organizers, "the purpose (of the demonstration) was to unmask a racist, anti-worker, anti-french party... and to make it clear that there are a lot of people who oppose the Reform Party."

The main protest was held in Ottawa and coincided with the Reform Party's annual meeting. Parallel protests were also held in Vancouver and Victoria.

that Reform represents "a legitimate voice of Canadians... the Reform Party brings to the attention of the governing party the worries of Canadians."

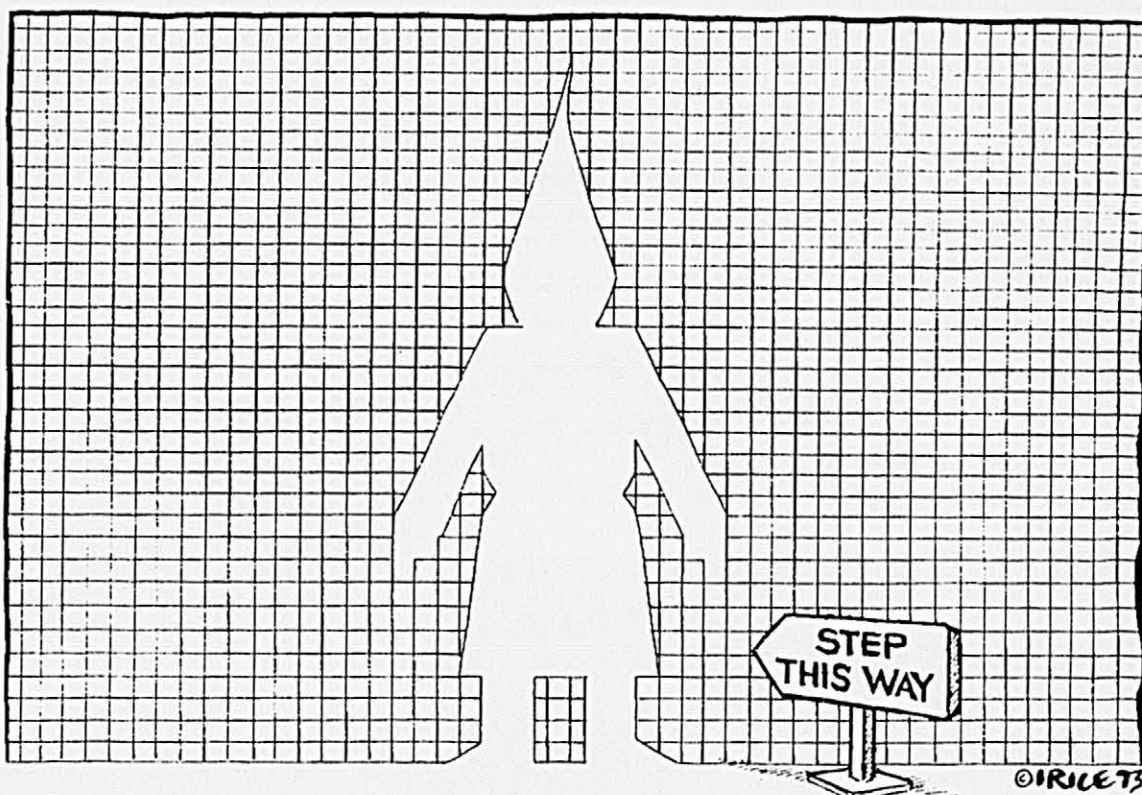
Maheux said that the Party is doing its best to keep racist elements out of the party. "My father told me ignorant people are everywhere... the Reform Party is not immune to these people... I was told... if there are any kooks, don't sign them up [for the party]."

Manning told the Assembly that allegations of racist links with the Reform Party were perpetrated by the Canadian Security and Intelligence Service (CSIS), possibly as a political move by the Progressive Conservatives and Brian Mulroney.

"Those charges of racism and incidents, untrue and unfair as they were, damaged us politically, particularly among ethnic communities and voters... and... cost Canada a federalist Official Opposition," Manning said.

On the allegations of sexism, Maheux commented, "there are nine managers in the Reform Party, five are whom are women."

Homophobia within the Reform Party is also not a problem, according to Maheux. Maheux stated, "[the Reform Party] is not against homosexuals, but has a pro-heterosexual stance."



REFORM CANDIDATE SCREENING PROCESS

Reform Party club is now active at McGill, after being granted 'interim interest group' status by the Students' Society at the October 20 council meeting.

Dean White, a graduate student in the Department of Chartered Accounting of McGill, is the leader of the McGill Reformers. White said he believes that Reform's popularity at McGill "will do nothing but expand. A lot of [Reform's] ideas appeal to everyday people."

White said he disagrees with the notion that Reform has racist, sexist and homophobic views, noting,

Manning made reference to the demonstration during his speech, stating, "we attributed these [racist] incidents to the vulnerability of a new, rapidly growing grass-roots party to infiltration by kooks and single-interest extremists, like those parading outside this convention."

Reform Responds

Reformists have been attempting to dissipate the negative response it has received, both from interest groups and the press. According to Maheux, "we have nothing to hide." Maheux commented

Maheux also said, "a lot of crime problems are due to broken homes... the basic family unit of Canadians is one with a mother and a father which produce children... we disagree with homosexuality... it's not a secret."

When asked about the Reform Party's proposed anti-French viewpoint, Maheux replied, "I'm a Francophone. I have very strong nationalist feelings." She also stressed that the Francophone Reformers, like herself, have always been well received within the Party, especially at the 1994 convention.

continued on page 5

Bernie talks to SSMU

Principal Shapiro address the Council meeting

BY SARA MAYO

Short on details, long on generalities, Principal Bernard Shapiro came to address the council of the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) last Thursday.

Councilors asked very specific questions to the Principal, but Shapiro answered in vague, general terms. "At a meeting like this I cannot say 'you can count on this,'" he admitted.

Most of the discussion was related to impending budget cuts. "The real issue in the Axworthy report is the drastic drop in the amount of money in the system, not how it's being pushed around," Shapiro said. "For McGill not to go bankrupt intellectually while going bankrupt financially, that's the problem."

Paul Johnson, Students' Society VP Finance, asked that students be consulted when the financial decisions are made. "I'm quite open to work with you," Shapiro responded.

Some councilors brought up non-financial issues. Arts rep. Lisa Grushcow asked about harassment policies at McGill. Students from the Black Students' Network (BSN) and Lesbian, Bisexual, and Gay Students (LBGM) of McGill are hoping to see harassment policies in place to cover the problems of racial and LBG harassment at McGill. Currently, McGill only has regula-

tions covering cases of sexual harassment. "Whether we have separate policies for each form of harassment is a matter of debate," Shapiro said.

However, Shapiro did acknowledge that more can be done to prevent harassment. "We'll never reach zero [level of harassment]," he stated.

Earlier this year, proposals were presented to the Board of Governors (BoG) to amend McGill's sexual harassment policy. The BoG decided to delay updating the policy in favour of having a committee study the proposed changes over the school year. Critics say that this move does not bode well for the implementation of LBG and racial harassment policies this year.

Explaining that McGill should ensure a safe environment for all its members, Clubs rep. Chris Carter asked why there has not been a commission to address the concerns of lesbian, bisexual, and gay students and staff. "Task forces are often double-edged swords," Shapiro commented, explaining that task forces can often be used to ignore a problem.

The next meeting of SSMU council is Thursday Nov. 3 in room B09/B10 of the Shatner building. A motion for SSMU to join the *Fédération Étudiante Universitaire du Québec* will be brought forth. All are welcome to attend.

OMMISSION

In the Thursday *Culture* issue, the *Daily* ran a story about artist John C. Keenan. A showing of his work will be presented in Thomson house: 3650 McTavish on the main floor until December 24.



HYDE PARK

Peace in the Middle East

Opinion submitted by Howard Liebman

Under a peaceful Wednesday morning sky in downtown Tel-Aviv a Palestinian Arab terrorist, whose name has not yet been released, boards the bus number five with 15 kg of explosives strapped to his body. His mission: to kill as many innocent Jews as possible. On Wednesday, October 19, 1994, his suicide mission is carried out and in its aftermath, a nation is rocked to its knees.

Since the handshake of "peaceful reconciliation" between Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat which followed a pledge by Arafat to end terrorism, over 100 Israelis have been slain at the hands of Palestinians, murdered in scores of brutal attacks on civilians within the pre-1967 borders of Israel. To Israelis, who have seen their defense forces withdraw from Gaza and Jericho as a trial for expanded Palestinian self-rule, such facts, aside from the emotional trauma of unrelenting terror attacks, call for a serious reevaluation of Palestinian intentions in these peace negotiations.

Last week alone, three separate attacks, claiming the lives of four Israelis, were carried out in the heart of Israel. They came on the heels of the Buenos Aires and London bombing attacks on Jews which claimed the lives of over 100 innocent people, and the bombing in April of a crowded bus stop in the Northern Israeli town of Afula.

In downtown Jerusalem last week, on the pedestrian mall of Nachlat Shiva, two Palestinian gunmen launched four hand grenades and opened fire with automatic weapons on passers-by, killing two and wounding a dozen more. (An investigation is underway to determine alleged ties of the terrorists to the Palestinian Autonomy Police, after a Kalashnikov rifle used in the attack, was found to have been issued to the PLO police in Gaza.)

The next day, 19 year old Israeli soldier Nachshon Waxman, son of an American emigrant to Israel, was kidnapped while hitch-hiking close to Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion Airport. As the entire nation agonized over his fate, he was found brutally shot in the neck and chest, still bound to a chair, seconds shy of an Israeli rescue team's effort to save him. The captain of the team, Nir Poraz, whose father was killed in the Yom Kippur War of 1973, was mortally wounded while leading his unit to Nachshon's rescue.

Torn by the events of the past week, the Israeli public and the entire Jewish world have attempted to retain their composure in the face of such barbarism. Credit for each attack is proudly claimed by Palestinian militants, while Israel's partner in peace, the PLO, takes no concrete steps to reverse the trend for fear of alienating the Palestinian population. Yesterday's attack in Tel Aviv, with 22 confirmed victims at press-time (authorities claim it will take a week to sort through the scattered remains of the victims to arrive at a final death count), sent a clear message to the world: Jewish blood will continue to flow despite, or perhaps because of, the peace process, while the PLO, Israel's "partner in peace" remains silent.

LETTERS

Palestine doesn't need a map

To the Daily,

This is a response to the letter "Did Someone Say Israel?" in the October 19 1994 issue. The letter expresses extreme disappointment in the *Daily* for neglecting to cover certain events that occurred in the Middle East this past week.

It is not the McGill *Daily's* task to report on all the events taking place all over the world, rather it relies on receiving articles from concerned and aware students, to publish it's paper weekly. Thus those who feel very strongly about a certain issue should submit an article expressing this.

The letter claims that the *Daily* is misinforming it's readers by calling both "Israel Proper" and the West Bank Palestine, since it is actually Israel. After all no map in the world shows a state named Palestine on it. The letter then goes on to explain that Palestine exists

only as a state of mind. Since the letter seems to be very keen on pointing out the actual name of "Israel Proper", so as to avoid any confusion, then it is only fair to expect that letter's author provide an explanation of how Palestine lost it's land to Israel!

Finally we would like to point out that much has occurred in that region of the world since before "the past week and a half": that is ever since 1948 when the state of Israel was formed, disregarding completely the Palestians living there. Therefore the "tumultuous period" did not begin when a group of Hamas raided a crowded bar.

—two concerned readers

No state called Palestine

To the Daily,

I find it quite interesting that in your October 17 edition you had an article that stated Palestinian leader Samir

Oder had made his "first visti to Palestine in 24 years". There is no such country in the world called Palestine. The area of the world I believe you are referring to is an area of the world that has been known as the State of Israel since 1948. By claiming Oder had returned to Palestine you are giving your readers false geographic information.

Furthermore, it is disappointing that the only issue you could focus on in the Middle East was about Oder's return on October 11. October 11 was the same day that the news media all over the world was broadcasting a videotape of kidnapped Israeli Nachshon Waxman by the terrorist group Hamas. Waxman's kidnapping was the main international headline of the week of the 11th, yet you made no mention of the incident. By failing to mention this significant information you are not exposing your readers to the reality of what is going on in the Middle East.

Heather Ross

The Daily welcomes all letters under 300 words. Add your name, program, year and phone number. Anonymity can be provided; talk to an editor beforehand. We print all letters provided they are not racist, sexist, homophobic or slanderous. Opinions can be expressed in the form of a Hyde Park, no more than 500 words.

SINCE 1911
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THE MCGILL DAILY

Take this job and shove it

Second appointee turns down top post at Ubyyssey

BY JORDAN TAN

OTTAWA (CUP) — Two people have turned down appointments to the position of editor-in-chief of The Ubyyssey. This comes six months after the student council at the University of British Columbia overruled the election of the paper's editorial staff.

As a result of the latest departure, the student government, or Alma Mater Society (AMS), is now talking about relinquishing editorial control and giving the 76-year-old student paper financial autonomy.

Heidi Peterson, a master's student in English, is the most recent appointee to reject the job. She applied to be a section editor and was offered the post of editor-in-chief at the end of September.

Peterson accepted the job for a week, but turned it down on October 5 due to practical and philosophical difficulties with the position.

"There were too many logistical problems," she said, noting that only six of UBC's 40,000 students

came out to volunteer, despite a recruitment campaign.

Peterson also said that she found the student government's direct involvement in her job unacceptable, saying, "I wasn't comfortable being an AMS-hired chief... I didn't feel like it was a legitimate position."

The Ubyyssey, which has been out of circulation since April, will remain unpublished indefinitely due to Peterson's resignation.

Her departure comes as no surprise to Taivo Evard. Evard is one of eight ex-editors of The Ubyyssey who, in May, launched a wrongful dismissal suit for \$10,000 each against the AMS over the council's invalidation of their election as editors.

"Nobody wants to work for the scab paper," Evard said. "Lots of students are unimpressed with the AMS."

Of the eight ex-editors, only photography editor Steven Scali has dropped his claim. He did not explain his decision to his co-plaintiffs, who learned about it in court on October 3. Evard said the suit may be resolved by early next year.

Evard and other concerned students planned a rally on October 12 to protest the actions of the AMS and to support the idea of an independent student newspaper.

Ironically, the AMS itself is con-

sidering the same option. "We seem to be moving towards having the paper completely independent," said AMS vice-president Janice Boyle. "[The council members] want to wash their hands of the whole thing."

She said the AMS has been moving to give complete financial autonomy to the paper since the first AMS-appointed editor, Trevor Curwin, resigned in August to accept a scholarship at Saint Mary's University in Halifax. She confirmed that the issue of autonomy

will be discussed at the next council meeting, on October 19. Curwin could not be reached for comment.

Evard said he doubts the sincerity of the AMS.

"They're not going to give up

"I wasn't comfortable being an AMS-hired chief... I didn't feel like it was a legitimate position."

— Heidi Peterson, who lasted only a week

control of the paper easily," he predicted. He said he is interested in rejoining an independent Ubyyssey should the AMS relent, "but the editors should be those elected last March."

Interestingly enough, the last person who attempted to run the paper is the most uncertain about a smooth transition back to editorial independence.

Said editor-for-a-week Heidi Peterson, "The paper might just have to totally die, and then it can cool off."

continued from page 3

Reform's Implications

Despite these implications, the party has many innovative and excellent ideas in the area of parliamentary reform.

For example, the Reform Party "supports the principle of allowing constituents a recall procedure against an M.P. they feel has violated his/her oath of office."

However, it is important to look past the outer, politically correct, pro-people layer of the Reform Party to view its more hidden inner foundations.

Perhaps Michelle Robidoux gave the most accurate description of Reform's implications when she said, "the scariest thing about the Reform Party is how they have succeeded in changing the Canadian political scene."

Recent changes made to Canada's immigration policy by Immigration Minister Sergio Marchi include a cap at 150,000 immigrants a year.

This change mimics Reform's own immigration policy. The Reform Party has been lobbying for a reduction in the number of immigrants allowed into Canada since its inception.

With federal cuts in unemployment insurance, welfare, and other areas, it is clear that, since the outcome of the 1993 elections, Canadian politics has undergone a devastating shift to the right. Though not all of this can be attributed to the Reform Party, clearly the party is making its presence felt.

Students trying for bus pass

Leader of effort undeterred after meeting with transit director

BY AUBREY COHEN

Once again, university students across Montréal are trying to get a discount transit pass. So far, it seems that this group is meeting with the same bureaucratic resistance as did its predecessors.

Currently, students under the age of 18 pay \$17 a month for a transit pass. All other students must pay the full rate, which is \$43. Students assert that this presents an undue burden on them.

Last week, representatives from area universities and CEGEPs met with Treflé Lacombe, the director of Société des transports de la communauté urbaine de Montréal (STCUM), to present their demand. Chris Pap, a Dawson college student who has been spearheading the latest effort, found the meeting unproductive.

"It went pretty much how we expected... We didn't really get anywhere with him. [Lacombe] basically gave us a two-hour lecture on the STCUM," Pap said.

"[Lacombe] was trying to counter us off against another group," Pap continued, referring to the assertion by Lacombe that in order to compensate for the the loss



As of your 18th birthday, you pay \$16 more for a bus pass.

in revenue incurred by granting a discount bus pass for university students, fares for other transit users would have to be raised.

Nick Benedict, Students' Society (SSMU) VP External, is coordinating McGill's participation in this effort. He said that, although petitions have been circulating at other schools for a couple of weeks now, no such initiative has been taken at McGill. Benedict says this is because he has been more involved with issues surrounding Human Resources Minister Lloyd Axworthy's "Discussion Paper" on social reform.

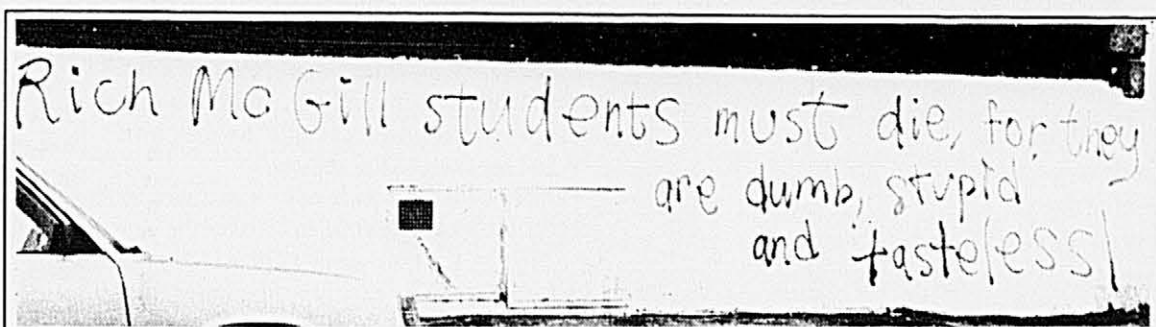
However, Benedict asserted that the Students' Society has been involved with the issue of a university student bus pass before and will continue to play a role.

"The SSMU definitely supports this," said Benedict.

On Sunday, Benedict, Pap and other student leaders will meet to coordinate their strategy.

As to whether or not students can expect a reduced rate in the future, Pap is optimistic.

"I personally feel... that we're really going to get somewhere. We're not going to let up until we do."



Events

• The McGill Organic Food Co-op takes orders every Monday from 12h30 to 18h30 in the QPIRG office. (5th floor Eaton Bldg.) To find out more, call 398-7432

• Ongoing Theatre Jennie's Story, by Betty Lambert. A drama focusing on the legal sterilization of women. Showtime 20h, Tuesday through Saturday, until Oct. 24th in Players' Theatre. (3rd floor Union Building). Cost: \$6 students, \$12 adults. Call 398-6813.

• The Huns, McGill Hungarian Students' Association will be holding a commemoration for Hungary's 1956 uprising. Featuring a short film with the producers present, and presentations by prominent Hungarian artists. All welcome. Today 18h, Leacock 429.

• United Nations Student Association of McGill commemorates the 50th anniversary of the United Nations Day.

16h—Students for International Development Education and the McGill Armenian Students' Association present Sovak Monyikion on "Refugees, Development, and the UN in Armenia: Personal Experiences" in Union B10.

17h—McGill Taiwanese Students' Association presents a discussion of "The Taiwan Question: Membership in the UN and the future of Taimen" in Leacock 232.

19h—UNSAM presents Professor John Humphrey, co-drafter of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in Leacock 232.

19h30—UNSAM presents the Montreal Model United Nations Conference on "Peacekeeping Reform: Standing Forces for the United Nations" in Leacock 232.

• HIV/AIDS Education/prevention workshops for women. These two day workshops focus on HIV/AIDS, STDs, sexuality and Self Esteem. Emphasis is placed on ways to empower women and promote positive behaviour changes. Every Saturday and Sunday from 19h to 15h until the end of November. Free. To register call Rita at the Centre for AIDS services of Montreal (women) 989-7997.

• Latitudes—the McGill Journal for Developing Areas Studies is looking for editors. We need people who can determine if a paper submitted is interesting and well written, and we need help organizing the printing and distribution in the spring. Meeting today at 15h30 in rm. 112 Shatner. Call 279-5413 for info.

• The Latin American Awareness Group presents a talk on the August elections in Mexico with ex-congressman Mario Rojas, and students that were observers in Mexico. Tuesday, Oct. 25 at 17h in Shatner 107/108.

• Interested in alternatives to chlorine bleaching? You can buy 100% cotton unbleached tampons and reusable pads from QPIRG's White-wash group. Office hrs. 12h30—17h30 Mondays in Eaton 505.

• GSCC Annual Bazaar 850 Dominion November 5th 10h to 15h. George Vanier Metro.

• Community forum: Positive Approaches: Living with HIV in the 90s. Esdnesday, November 2 at 19h. Hotel du Parc, 3625 Avenue du Parc. Sponsored by AIDS Community Care Montreal, and Pharmacia.

The Democratic Coalition-Ecology Montréal In their own words

BY AUBREY COHEN

"The city of Montréal is in trouble." So reads the first sentence of the party platform of the Democratic Coalition-Ecology Montréal (DC-EM). This is something which all of the parties, save for the ruling Montréal Citizens' Movement (MCM) seem to agree upon. Where the parties differ is in their proposed solution to problems facing the city.

The DC-EM calls itself the only true party of the left. According to their party platform, they are committed to, "the twin goals of social justice and sustainable development." The following is a summary of the main points of this platform.

The DC-EM outlines their agenda on the basis of 10 "Rights of Montréalers." These rights include:

- I) "a right to a democratic municipal government"
- II) "a right to accountability and efficiency in the delivery of municipal services"
- III) "a right to municipal services which promote social justice for all"
- IV) "a right to decent housing"
- V) "a right to have their voluntary community organizations treated with respect by the city"
- VI) "a right to productive, socially useful and ecologically sound economic development"
- VII) "a right to engage in culturally enriching activity"
- VIII) "a right to live in a city where the environment is respected and protected"
- IX) "the right to affordable and environmentally sound modes of transportation"
- X) "the right to live in a safe city"

Following this, the platform explains how the DC-EM hopes to accomplish these goals. Here are some of the highlights:

- The DC-EM "will establish Neighbourhood councils composed of local residents and representatives of local community organizations. These councils will have the power to make decisions concerning local issues."
- The DC-EM "will introduce, publicise and enforce a more comprehensive access-to-information policy."
- The DC-EM "will accelerate the affirmative action programs for ethnic communities and women in all municipal and MUC departments [and] introduce employment equity

requirements for the city's suppliers."

- The DC-EM "will promote social housing... [and] contest federal and provincial government attempts to abolish subsidies for low-cost and co-operative housing."

- The DC-EM "will continue to oppose the conversion of rental housing to condominiums."

- The DC-EM promote "the gradual purchase of land by the municipality with a view to building more social housing."

- The DC-EM "will promote the development... of economic development zones in economically depressed areas. Businesses operating in these zones will be granted tax exemptions provided they meet certain environmental standards, as well as investment and job-creation objectives."

- The DC-EM "will adopt a Charter of the Environment aimed at complete protection of land, water and air."

- The DC-EM "will create a Green Squad to detect violations of the law and to promote greater public awareness of environmental issues. We will see to the enforcement of air quality standards, the prohibition of halons and CFCs, and the reduction of the amount of salt used in snow clearing. Furthermore they "will step up plans to stop the dumping of polluted snow directly into the St. Lawrence river."

- The DC-EM "will set up a city-wide curbside recycling program for both domestic and commercial waste by 1996... The aim of this program will be to recycle 80 per cent of all municipal solid waste collected by the end of 1998."

- The DC-EM "will reduce the use of cars by the introduction of a system of priority parking in all Montréal neighbourhoods"

- The DC-EM "will establish a complete network of North/South and East/West reserved bus lanes"

- The DC-EM "will promote increased bicycle use as a form of urban transportation... Bicycle paths will be planned with cyclist organizations for both inner-city transport and recreational use. Buses crossing the mountain and the rivers will be equipped to allow bicycles aboard."

- The DC-EM "will establish local advisory and priority committees in each police district... [and create] a police ombudsman post"

This is just a summary, those who are interested in the full details of the DC-EM platform should visit their campaign headquarters at 3720 Park Ave., 3rd floor. Remember to vote on November 6!

Jennie's Story deals with forced sterilization Play confronts the abuse of power over the disadvantaged

BY STEPHANIE EVANS

vent those with undesirable heredity traits from passing their disabilities on to their children."

In this story, Jennie is of average intelligence, but the parallel between the sterilization of Jennie, and of the mentally challenged people living in the 1930s, are made clear. However, although the issue of abuse of power is raised and the audience does get a taste of its possible consequences, it is not dealt with as adequately as it could be. In fact, the final scene left

Thursday night's performance of *Jennie's Story* by the McGill Play-er's Theatre included several gripping and very intense scenes, and raised several important issues.

The play, written by Betty Lambert, takes place in a rural village around the time of the 1930s depression. Jennie (Jennifer Finestone) and Harry McGrane (Jeff Roop) are a young couple who have been unable to have children. Father Fabrizeau (Jason Daniel Laino) is a sullen-looking priest with a mysterious role in the couple's lives.

This odd character is not the only element

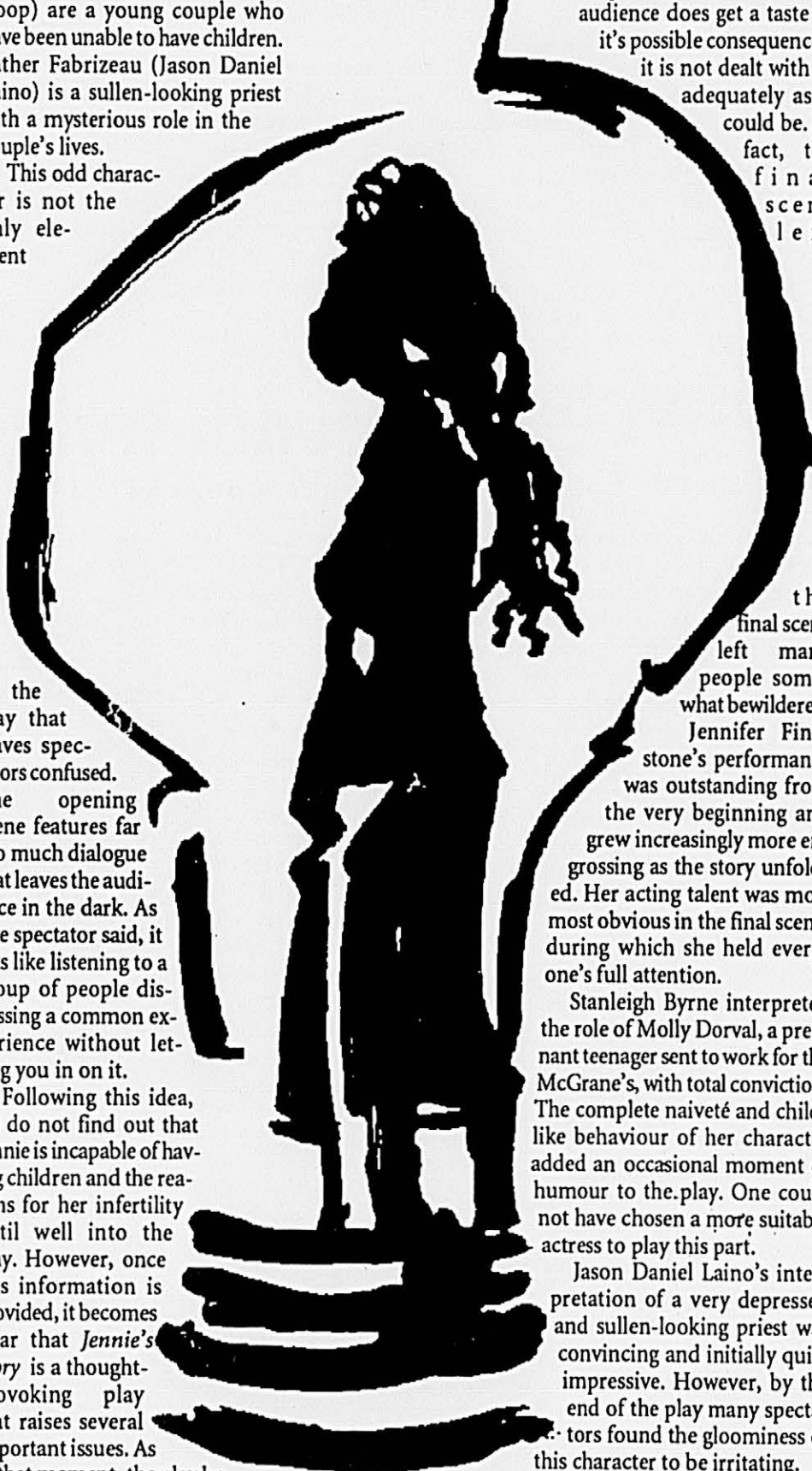
of the play that leaves spectators confused. The opening scene features far too much dialogue that leaves the audience in the dark. As one spectator said, it was like listening to a group of people discussing a common experience without letting you in on it.

Following this idea, we do not find out that Jennie is incapable of having children and the reasons for her infertility until well into the play. However, once this information is provided, it becomes clear that *Jennie's Story* is a thought-provoking play that raises several important issues. As of that moment, the play becomes far more interesting and enjoyable.

Jennie's Story raises the issue of abuse of power over defenseless individuals, and more particularly the sterilization of people "for their own good and for the good of society."

The program for *Jennie's Story* includes an excerpt from an article entitled *Sterilize the Unfit*, written by a physician in 1939, which says: "The mentally-unfit are... breeding faster than the fit, and will continue to do so until we pre-

Jennie's Story



Stanleigh Byrne interpreted the role of Molly Dorval, a pregnant teenager sent to work for the McGrane's, with total conviction. The complete naiveté and child-like behaviour of her character added an occasional moment of humour to the play. One could not have chosen a more suitable actress to play this part.

Jason Daniel Laino's interpretation of a very depressed and sullen-looking priest was convincing and initially quite impressive. However, by the end of the play many spectators found the gloominess of this character to be irritating.

On the whole, *Jennie's Story* is worth seeing, both for the quality of the performances and for the important issues it brings forth. Once you are let in on the lives of the characters, the play is both entertaining and thought-provoking.

Jennie's Story will be playing on the third floor of the Union building until October 29. Admission is 6\$ for students and 12\$ for all others..

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14 - NOTICES

LBGM discussion grps. Wed. 5:30 Bi-Group Shalner 423. Thurs. 7PM women's grp. Shalner 423. Fri. coming out 5:30 & General 7PM, 3521 University.

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McGill AIDS Benefit Fashion Show Tryouts

Everybody is welcome & encouraged to come & audition. Tryouts will take place on Oct. 25 & 26 at the Union Bldg. Cafeteria at 6-9pm. The actual show will be held at Metropolis on March 10/95. See you there.

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NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE DAILY PUBLICATIONS SOCIETY

At the October 18, 1994 meeting of the Daily Publications Society Board of Directors, Eva Papastrakis was voted in as replacement for John Alberts who represented the Faculty of Arts, as per section 6.4.1 of the constitution of the Daily Publications Society.

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